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File No. 100
Sub. 1826-12

FEDERAL BUREAU

of

INVESTIGATION

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **WASHINGTON, D. C.**

FILE NO. **100-7311**

REPORT MADE AT Cleveland, Ohio	DATE WHEN MADE 4-25-44	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/10, 13, 14, 16, 18, 20/44	REPORT MADE BY CLARENCE A. BROM kh
TITLE RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES			CHARACTER OF CASE ESPIONAGE - R

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Czech-Russian Rally held in Cleveland, Ohio on 4-16-44 sponsored jointly by ~~Slovak National Alliance~~ and ~~American United War Relief Committee~~ of Cleveland. ~~KISSELEV~~, consul general of U.S.S.R. at New York City, principal speaker. ~~HAJNY~~, Czechoslovak consul in Cleveland also spoke briefly. Both stressed the friendship between Czechoslovakia and Russia. ~~LEO KRZYCKI~~, president of ~~American Polish Labor Council~~ lauded the Red Army and the Partisan forces operating in the conquered countries, and stressed the necessity of close cooperation with Russia for future world peace. Communist Party not active in sponsoring Rally or arranging program. Receipts divided between Czech and Russian War Relief.

- RUC -

Reference: **Teletype to Cleveland from Washington, D.C. dated April 7, 1944.**

Details: **AT CLEVELAND, OHIO:**

Reference teletype advised that a joint Czech-Russian meeting was scheduled to be held in Cleveland on or about April 15, 1944 to which KISSELEV, Russian Consul of New York City was to be a delegate.

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Sponsorship and Arrangements

Confidential informant T-1 ascertained for the writer that a Czech-Russian Rally was scheduled to be held on Sunday, April 16, 1944 at 5:00 p.m. at the Czech Sokol Hall, 4314 Clark Avenue. This meeting was to be a cultural gathering of people of Slav Ancestry to celebrate the recent signing of the Russian-Czech pact. He advised that LOUIS KRCH, Ohio District President of the Slovak National Alliance was instrumental in organizing the rally on behalf of the Slovak National Alliance. To insure the success of the venture, KRCH invited HARRY E. LUBESHKOFF (chairman of the American United War Relief Committee of Cleveland, vice chairman of the United Slav Congress, and State Vice president of the International Workers Order, and formerly active in various other reported Communist Party front organizations in Cleveland; also reported to be a strong Communist Party sympathizer) to be co-chairman of the affair and bring his groups into it. T-1 stated as far as he was able to learn, these two individuals were solely responsible for staging the affair.

In connection with the Slovak National Alliance he stated it was organized in 1939 after Czechoslovakia was invaded by Germany to aid in the liberation of Czechoslovakia. He stated that the organization has perhaps 4500 members nationally of which between 400 and 500 are in Cleveland. The organization is not Communistically dominated or subversive in any respect. Its membership is composed mainly of members of the Czechoslovak National Alliance of the Czechoslovak Catholic Union.

Informant T-2, who is well-informed on Czechoslovakian affairs in Cleveland, confirmed the above information and further advised that EVJUNEIJ DMITRIEVICH NISSELEV, consul general of the U.S.S.R. at New York City was to be the principal speaker. He stated that EMANUEL JAN HAJNY, Czech consul in Cleveland was also scheduled to give a brief talk on the program. He stated that HAJNY is opposed to speaking at any political or supposed social group which later might leave him open to criticism. In this case he was requested to appear on the program by the Czechoslovakian Legation in Washington, D.C. inasmuch as a Russian consul was also to appear on the program.

He did not consider a Czech-Russian Rally unusual as he states a friendship has always existed between the two nations and that Czechoslovakia had maintained very satisfactory trade relations with Russia until the outbreak of the war. He also stated that the recent pact signed between the two nations is very satisfactory to Czechoslovakia in that Russia assures the restoration of the Czech Empire and that she will in no way interfere with its internal affairs.

Czech-Russian Rally

On April 16, 1944, the writer attended this meeting held at the Czech Sokol Hall, 4314 Clark Avenue which was open to the public and which started at 5:30 p.m. Approximately 650 to 700 people were in attendance.

The following individuals were seated at the speakers' stand:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization represented</u>
JOSEPH STEPANEK	Czech National Catholic Union
FRANK PRECH	Czech-American National Alliance
THAD MASON	(reported Party member) Progressive Polish Party
LEO KRZYCKI	(reported strong Communist Party sympathizer) National president of Polish-American Labor Council and American Slav Congress; general vice-president Amalgamated Clothing Workers (CIO)
LOUIS KRCH	Slovak National Alliance
HARRY E. LUBESHKOFF	(reported Party sympathizer) Vice-chairman of United Slav Congress, State vice-president of the IWO, and chairman of the American United War Relief Committee of Cleveland
BLANCHE GLINSKI	(reported American youth for Democracy and Communist Party member) Representative of the Russian and Slav Youth groups
EUGENE KISSELEV	Consul general of U.S.S.R. at New York City
EMANUEL JAN HAJNY	Czech consul in Cleveland.

LOUIS KRCH opened the meeting in the Czech language by welcoming the assembly, and then read a proclamation by the Czech-American National Alliance at Chicago, Illinois to the people of Czechoslovakia urging them to welcome the Russian armies into Czechoslovakia and assist them in ridding the Nazi hordes from their country.

He then introduced STEPANEK, PRECH, GLINSKI, and LUBESHKOFF who very briefly extended greetings from their respective organizations. STEPANEK and PRECH spoke Czech, MASON in Polish, while BLANCHE GLINSKI and LUBESHKOFF spoke in English. It is interesting to note that GLINSKI extended greetings as a representative of Russian and Slav Youth in Cleveland but made no reference to the American Youth for Democracy.

LUBESHKOFF then took over as chairman and at great length introduced LEO KRZYCKI, giving all his affiliations and stating he had spent forty-six years in the labor movement. KRZYCKI speaking both in Polish and English, delivered a forceful and rousing talk, lauding the Red Army, Partisan

CV F.O.
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forces in the conquered countries, and Marshal STALIN. The mention of STALIN's name drew a loud round of applause from the audience intermingled with cheering. He stressed the necessity of close cooperation by the United States, England and other European nations with Russia after the war to insure future world peace.

Doctor HAJNY then addressed the gathering in the Czech language, stressing the friendship between Czechoslovakia and Russia. He stated that when Germany invaded Czechoslovakia several units of the Czech Army fled into Poland and fought with the Polish forces against Germany until the fall of Poland when they joined the Russian forces. Two divisions of Czech troupes were among the first to reach the border of Czechoslovakia in recent Russian advances. He stated that the Czechoslovak people are depending on Russia in liberating their country.

The final speaker was KISSELEV, Consul general of the U.S.S.R. in New York who received a tremendous ovation. He spoke in Russian and according to T-2, who also attended the rally, stated that Russia and Czechoslovakia pleaded before the Geneva Conference for world peace and security which would have saved the world from Munich and the present war. He commended the friendship that exists between the two nations. In concluding he stated that Russia realizes and greatly appreciates the material aid she is receiving from the United States and hopes for an even closer relationship between these two great nations in the post war era.

After his speech, LUBESHKOFF announced that the rally was jointly sponsored by the Slavic National Alliance and the American United War Relief Committee of Cleveland of which he is chairman and which was recently organized by uniting the various Russian organizations in Cleveland.

He then introduced JACK ~~LANE~~ (LAWRENCE LEONARD ~~LANE~~, reported Party member) of the Russian War Relief, Inc., who thanked the people for their cooperation in the past which enabled the Cleveland district to lead the United States in clothing contributions in Russian war relief. He then made a plea for aid in the "Relief Kit" program which the organization is sponsoring at the present time.

A collection was then taken up which amounted to \$530 which was to be divided equally between Russian War Relief and Czech War Relief.

The program was concluded with the M. R. Stefanik and Russian choruses singing several numbers, and the showing of a motion picture "Janosik", Slovak legendary hero.

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100-7311

Miscellaneous

Informant T-2 advised that the Russian and Slovak sections of the International Workers Order (reported Communist Party front organization) in Cleveland were well-represented at the rally. He credited the large turn-out to the efforts of LUBESHKOFF in publicizing the affair before various Russian groups that he represents, and estimated that half of the crowd was of Russian descent.

Handwritten: Every Day
[redacted] a member of the Communist Party, advised that the Communist Party had nothing to do with sponsoring the affair or arranging the program. He stated that to his knowledge the affair was not even discussed by local Party leaders.

[redacted] whose identity is known to the Bureau, were unable to furnish any information concerning the Czech-Russian Rally which would indicate that the Communist Party showed any interest in the affair.

A leaflet advertising a film "Battle of Russia" to be shown at the Ukrainian Home, 1051 Auburn Avenue on April 22, 1944 under the sponsorship of the Slovak-section of the I.W.O. was passed out at the rally. It was announced that ~~MAX~~ BEDACHT, general secretary of the I.W.O. will be speaker.

No Communist literature was sold or passed out at this rally.

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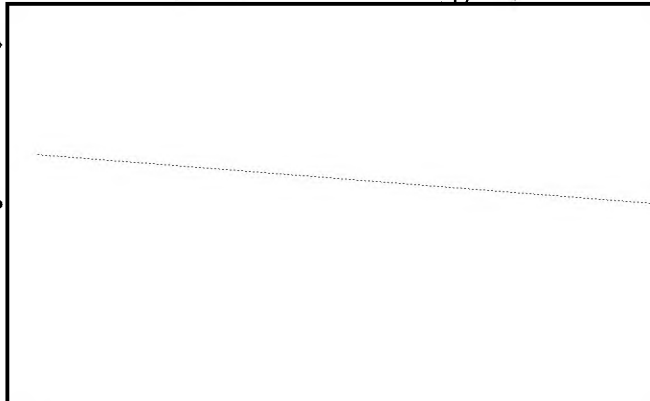
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CV F.O.
100-7311

CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANTS

Informant T-1

Informant T-2



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI

DATE: July 14, 1949

FROM : SAC, Cleveland

SUBJECT: RUSSIAN ACTIVITIES
INTERNAL SECURITY - R

Father DEMETRIOS LESCHISHIN, Pastor, St. Vladimir Church, 2280 West 11th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, advised this office on July 12, 1949 that he had recently received a letter from one Mrs. OLGA SOKOLOV, DP Camp, Block 4, Room 9, 23/Varel/ Oldbg., Germany, addressed to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 2280 West 11th Street, Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A.

The contents of this letter are as follows:

Olga X Sokolova

"DP Camp, Block 4, Room 89
/23/Varel/Oldbg.
Germany

"Ukrainian Orthodox Church
2280 W 11 Street,
Cleveland, Ohio,
U.S.A.

Gentleman:

*Possibly the airman
who recently escaped
to Sweden.*

According to the news recently broadcast by the Voice of America, a ~~X~~SOKOLOV, BORIS, pilot-officer of the Russian Air Force, has escaped from the USSR and at present is living in the U.S.A. as a political emigrant.

I myself have a brother named SOKOLOV BORIS who was born at Ivanovskoja near Leningrad, USSR, on April 5th, 1922, whom I have nothing heard of since I left the USSR in 1943.

Would you, please, inform me, whether the a/n person is identical with my brother whom I am tracing for, and if it is, what is his address, so that I could contact him.

"Yours faithfully,

/s/ OLGA ~~X~~SOKOLOV

OLGA SOKOLOV."

Father LESCHISHIN stated that he did not know how the subject came in- to possession of the address of his church, as he was not acquainted with the sub- ject and has never heard of her. He further stated it was his opinion that this

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Encl.
VIA REGISTERED MAIL

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Director, FBI

July 14, 1949

*Appears
probably*
letter might be a request put out by the Russian Government as a seemingly innocent blind by which the Russians could locate this BORIS SOKOLOV and attempt to take him back to Russia.

*Not so
easy*
Father LESCHISHIN added by way of explanation that this SOKOLOV BORIS named in the letter was probably one of the two pilots who deserted the Russians and sought asylum in the U. S. zone of Germany some time ago. Father LESCHISHIN stated that these two pilots had toured the United States but he advised he did not know of their present whereabouts. He stated that he certainly did not desire to give any assistance to the Russians if it were a "plant", nor did he wish to disappoint any innocent person if the letter was legitimate, and for that reason he desired to inform the FBI.

Father LESCHISHIN stated he was under no compunction to answer the communication and stated that if the Bureau desired he would make any reply requested, as he was willing to cooperate in any way. He also stated it seemed to him that the quality of the writing paper was too good to be used in a DP camp.

Father LESCHISHIN stated that it was not necessary for the letter to be returned to him and consequently same is being forwarded for the Bureau's information and whatever action deemed advisable.

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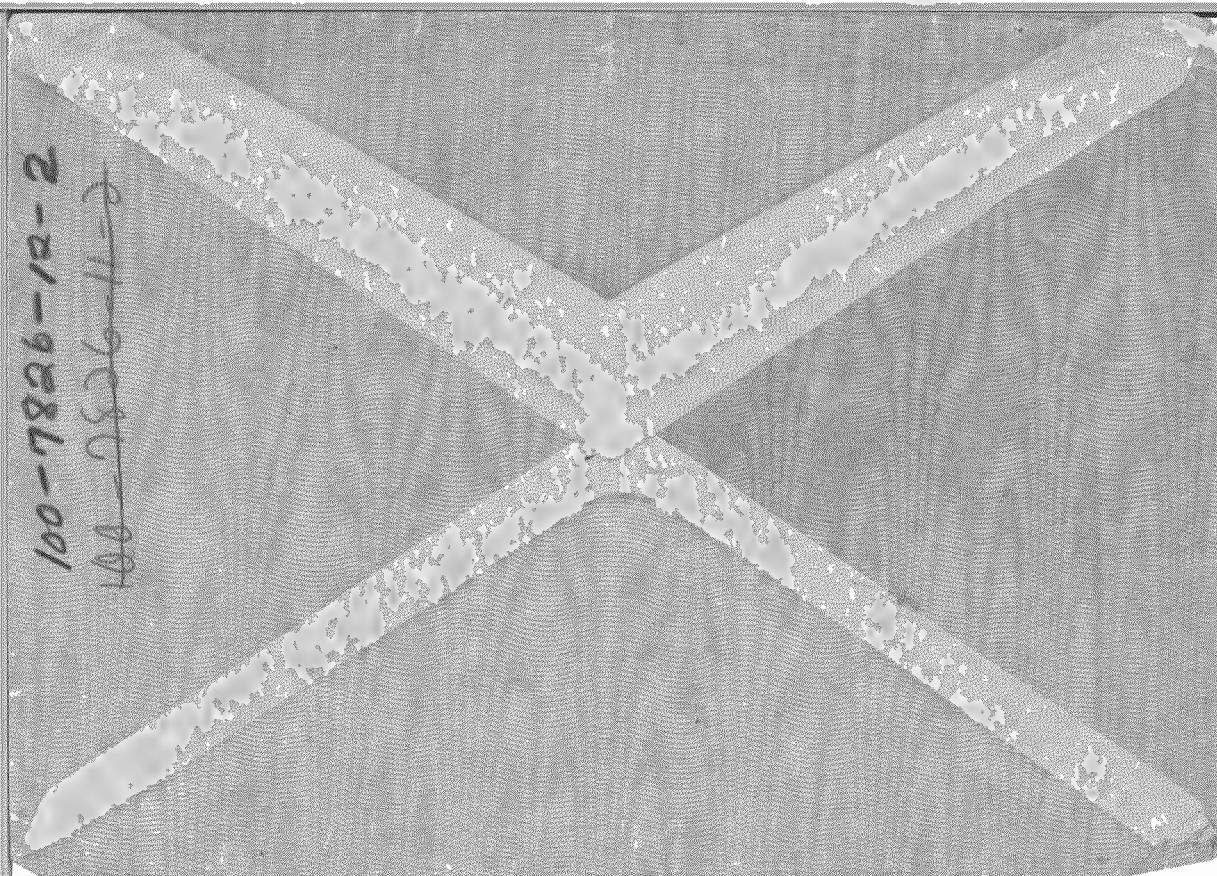
100-7826-12-2
~~100-7826-11-2~~

58
Mrs. Olga Sokolova,
DP Camp, Block 4, Room 89,
/23/ Varel / Oldbg.
Germany.

Ukrainian Orthodox Church,
2280 W 11 Street,
Cleveland, Ohio,
U.S.A.

MIT LUFTPOST
PAR AVION

MIT LUFTPOST
PAR AVION
BY AIR MAIL



DP Camp, Block 4, Room 89,
/23/ Varel / Oldbg.
Germany.

Ukrainian Orthodox Church,
2280 W 11 Street,
Cleveland, Ohio,
U.S.A.

Gentleman:

According to the news recently broadcast by the Voice of America, a SCKOLOW Boris, pilot-officer of the Russian Air Force, has escaped from the USSR and at present is living in the U.S.A. as a political emigrant.

I myself have a brother named SCKOLCA Boris who was born at Ivanovskoja near Leningrad, USSR, on April 5th, 1922, whom I have nothing heard of since I left the USSR in 1943.

Would you, please, inform me, whether the a/n person is identical with my brother whom I am tracing for, and if it is, what is his address, so that I could contact him.

Yours faithfully,

Olga Sokolow

Olga Sokolow

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Riley Room 2240Subj: Sokolowa, Olga

☒ Exact Spelling Searchers
☒ All References Initial en
☐ Subversive Ref Date 7/27
☐ Main File
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Buildups & Breakdowns
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SERVICE UNIT

F-19a

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Alley Room 2242

Subj: Sokolow, Boris

☐ Exact Spelling

Searchers

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☐ Subversive Ref

Date 7/27

☐ Main File

☐ Restricted to Locality of

Buildings - Breakdown

FILE NUMBER

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B. Sokolow

NR

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SERVICE UNIT

F-19a

SEARCH SLIP

Supervisor Rly

Room

2242

Subj:

Sokolova Boris

☐ Exact Spelling

Searchers

☒ All References

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☐ Subversive Ref

Date

7-27

☐ Main File

☐ Restricted to Locality of

FILE NUMBER

SERIALS

NR -

Initialed

SAC, Cleveland

August 1, 1949

Director, FBI

OLGA SOKOLOV 100-782642-2
INTERNAL SECURITY - R
Bureau file ~~100-982642-2~~

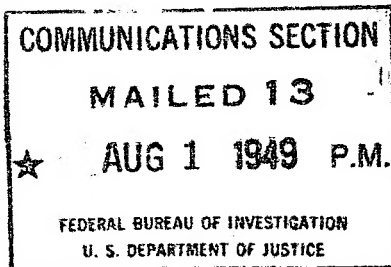
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Reurlet July 14, 1949, captioned "Russian Activities -
INTERNAL SECURITY - R," your file 100-7311. For your information
there is no information in Bureau files concerning subject and
her brother. You should inform Father Demetrios Leschishin that
this Bureau cannot furnish him with any information and in addition
you should advise him that this Bureau cannot aid him in determining
the desirability of answering subject's letter.

SGR:jpa

RECEIVED

Mr. Tolson _____
Mr. Clegg _____
Mr. Glavin _____
Mr. Ladd _____
Mr. Nichols _____
Mr. Rosen _____
Mr. Tracy _____
Mr. Egan _____
Mr. Gurnea _____
Mr. Harbo _____
Mr. Mohr _____
Mr. Pennington _____
Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
Tele. Room _____
Mr. Nease _____
Miss Gandy _____



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[Handwritten signatures and initials: WJH, HBF, Lw, etc.]